Duty free import of foodgrain items

*150. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently allowed private traders to import duty free foodgrain items and if so, the details thereof, including the names of the traders and the country from which these items are being imported; and

(b) whether Government-have formulated any guidelines for the sale of these items in the market by them and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir. pulses which were freely importable are now allowed duty free from 8th June, 2006. The quantum and source of imports are yet to be compiled.

(b) No guidelines need to be formulated as pulses have been freely importable by the private traders.

Legislation for occupational safety and health

*151. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRIVIJAYJ. DARDA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is as yet no comprehensive national legislation pertaining to occupational safety and health; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring any Bill before the Parliament in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. At present there is no comprehensive National Legislation pertaining to Occupational Safety and Health. A draft Legislation on Occupational Safety and Health has been prepared by Government.

Policy to deal with terrorism

*152. SHRIMATI HEMAMALINI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased, to state:

(a) whether Government have framed any policy to deal with terrorism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The policy of the Government is to combat terrorism on political, security and development fronts. The Government is willing to talk to all those groups who agree to abjure violence and surrender arms. Effective and sustained Police action is pursued to counter terrorist activities in Jammu & Kashmir and other parts of the country, besides strengthening of borders to check infiltration. Development activities are speeded up in areas prone to terrorist activities. Also, steps are taken to achieve bilateral and multilateral cooperation to deal with global dimensions of terrorism.

(c) Does not arise.

Juveniles detained in jails with hardened criminals

*153. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Juveniles are detained alongwith adult and hardened criminals in Tihar jail in Delhi, and in other jails in the country, despite the law prohibiting such detentions; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring any amendment to the law; in not, what steps are being taken to protect the children from ill effects of such company, and they being subjected to abuse?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No juvenile prisoners are detained with adult and hardened criminals in Tihar Jails.

Information about juveniles detained with adults and hardened criminals in other jails of the country are being collected from the State Governments/ Union Territories and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 contains adequate provisions for care, protection, treatment, development and rehabilitation of juveniles in conflict with law. However, the Government has introduced the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Amendment Bill, 2005 in the Lok Sabha to amend some of the provisions of the Act to make it more effective.